

Amendments to the Claims:

A listing of the entire set of pending claims (including amendments to the claims, if any) is submitted herewith per 37 CFR 1.121. This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

1. (Currently amended) An active matrix electroluminescent display device including an array of display pixels, comprising:
an electroluminescent (EL) display element;
active matrix circuitry including at least one drive transistor for driving a current through the display element;
means for determining an overall brightness level of an image to be displayed in a frame period; and
means for controlling the at least one drive transistor of each pixel individually in dependence on a respective input signal providing a drive level for the pixel and in dependence on the overall brightness level.

2. (Previously presented) The device as claimed in claim 1, wherein the means for controlling the at least one drive transistor comprises a signal processing device for determining an overall brightness level and for processing the input signals for the pixels in dependence on the overall brightness level.

3. (Previously presented) The device as claimed in claim 2, wherein the signal processing device comprises a field store for storing the input signals for an image and a summation unit for summing the input signals for all pixels of the image in the field store to determine the overall brightness.

4. (Previously presented) The device as claimed in claim 2, wherein the signal processing device is adapted to employ gamma characteristics for processing the input signals in dependence on the overall brightness level.

5. (Previously presented) The device as claimed in claim 3, wherein the signal processing device further comprises a look up table for modifying the input signals for the stored image in dependence on the overall brightness level.

6. (Previously presented) The device as claimed in claim 5, wherein the signal processing device is adapted to calculate or select the look-up table in dependence on the overall brightness level.

7. (Previously presented) The device as claimed in claim 2, wherein the signal processing device operates to reduce the maximum brightness level to which any pixel is drive in response to an increase in the overall brightness of an image.

8. (Previously presented) The device as claimed in claim 2, wherein the signal processing device comprises digital to analogue converter circuitry for converting digital inputs into the input signal, and wherein the digital to analogue converter circuitry is controllable in dependence on the overall brightness level.

9. (Previously presented) The device as claimed in claim 1, wherein the active matrix circuitry comprises first and second drive transistors in parallel each connected between a respective power supply line and the EL display element, the input to the pixel being provided to the gates of the first and second drive transistors, and wherein the first the drive transistor is supplied with a first supply voltage and the second drive transistor is supplied with a second supply voltage, at least one of the supply voltages being variable in dependence on the on the overall brightness level.

10. (Previously presented) The device as claimed in claim 9, wherein the input to the pixel is provided to the gates of the first and second drive transistors through an address transistor.

11. (Previously presented) The device as claimed in claim 9, wherein the first supply voltage is fixed and the second supply voltage is variable.

12. (Previously presented) The device as claimed in claim 11, wherein the first and second supply voltages can be equal.

13. – 17. (Cancelled)

18. (Currently amended) A method of addressing an active matrix electroluminescent display device comprising an array of display pixels, an electroluminescent (EL) display element and active matrix circuitry including at least one drive transistor for driving a current through the display element, the method comprising:

determining an overall brightness level of an image to be displayed in a frame period; and

controlling the at least one drive transistor of each pixel individually in dependence on a respective input signal providing a drive level for the pixel and in dependence on the overall brightness level.

19. (Currently amended) The method as claimed in claim 18, wherein the controlling the at least one drive transistor comprises processing the input signals for the pixels in dependence on the overall brightness level and then applying the processed input signals to the pixels.

20. (Currently amended) The method as claimed in claim 19, wherein the determining the overall brightness level comprises storing the input signals for an image and summing them.

21. (Currently amended) The method as claimed in claim 19, wherein the processing the input signals comprising modifying the input signals using a look up

table, the address of which is selected in dependence on the input signal and the overall brightness level.

22. (Currently amended) The method as claimed in claim 19, wherein the processing of the input signals is performed by employing gamma characteristics of the array of display elements.

23. (Previously presented) The method as claimed in claim 18, wherein the control of the at least one drive transistor reduces the maximum brightness level to which any pixel is drive in response to an increase in the overall brightness of an image.

24. (Previously presented) The method as claimed in claim 18, wherein the input signals are in digital form, and controlling the at least one drive transistor comprises controlling the digital to analogue conversion of the digital input signal in dependence on the overall brightness level and then applying the analogue input signals to the pixels.

25. – 29. (Cancelled)